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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/50/617/Add.4)]

50/102. United Nations system support for science and technology in Africa

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development, 1/ adopted by the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development and subsequently endorsed and reaffirmed by the General Assembly,

Reaffirming also its resolution 46/151 of 18 December 1991, the annex to which contains the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, having as its priority objectives the accelerated transformation, integration, diversification and growth of the African economies, in order to strengthen them within the world economy,

Having considered the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "United Nations system support for science and technology in Africa", 2/ and the conclusions and recommendations contained therein,

Recognizing the crucial significance of science and technology, including the related information technologies, for planning, development and decision-making in science and technology and the promotion of endogenous capacity-building in science and technology in the process of growth and

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1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, Vienna, 20-31 August 1979 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.79.I.21 and corrigenda), chap. VII.

2/ A/50/125-E/1995/19, annex.

development,

Recognizing also that the fundamental objective of science and technology to meet basic needs should be to create conditions that increase the ability of people living in poverty to gain access to, fully understand, integrate, use and generate knowledge and technology creatively in order to satisfy their basic needs,

Stressing the importance of South-South cooperation in the promotion of science and technology in Africa in the context of, inter alia, modalities for economic and technical cooperation among developing countries,

Noting the efforts being undertaken by African leaders within the Presidential Forum on the Management of Science and Technology for Development in Africa, 1995-2005,

Taking note of the Cairo Agenda for Action, adopted on 28 June 1995 by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-first ordinary session, 3/

1. Takes note of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "United Nations system support for science and technology in Africa", 2/ and the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination thereon; 4/

2. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to promote and implement activities in support of science and technology in Africa in the context of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s;

3. Also requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, to make concrete proposals on activities, in the context of the mid-term review of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, to be carried out in 1996, aimed at strengthening United Nations system support for science and technology in Africa, taking into account the views and recommendations contained in the reports mentioned above and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fifty-first session.

96th plenary meeting
20 December 1995

3/ See A/50/647, annex II, resolution AHG/Res.236 (XXXI).

4/ A/50/125/Add.1-E/1995/19/Add.1, annex.